

Message Text

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SUBJECT: GERMAN GOVERNMENT REPORT ON RADIOLOGICAL
EXPOSURE IN FRG

1. SUMMARY. THE FRG GOVERNMENT REPORT ON "RADIOLOGICAL EXPOSURE AND ITS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT" FINDS THAT NEITHER NUCLEAR TESTS THAT WERE PERFORMED IN 1974 NOR THE OPERATION OF NUCLEAR FACILITIES ADDED SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE EXPOSURE CAUSED BY NATURAL RADIATION. END SUMMARY

2. IN 1975 THE PARLIAMENT ASKED FOR AN EXPANSION OF THE ANNUAL GOVERNMENT REPORT ON RADIATION AND ENVIRONMENT WHICH FORMERLY COVERED ONLY RADIATION FROM NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTS. CONSEQUENTLY THE NEXT REPORT (WHICH GIVES 1974 DATA) SHOWS FIGURES ON THE NATURAL RADIATION IN THE FRG, ON THE AMOUNT OF RADIOACTIVITY RELEASED BY NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS AND RESEARCH CENTERS AND LISTS THE AVERAGE GONAD DOSE CAUSED BY VARIOUS MEDICAL X-RAY EXAMINATIONS.
FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE 11 PAGE REPORT.

3. NATURAL SOURCES OF RADIATION CONTRIBUTE APPROXIMATELY 110 MILLIREM PER YEAR (MREM/A) TO THE AVERAGE ANNUAL INDIVIDUAL DOSE OF RADIATION, WHILE ARTIFICIAL
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RADIATION ADDS 60 MREM/A. THE MOST IMPORTANT SOURCE OF

ARTIFICIAL RADIATION IS MEDICAL PROCEDURES, MAINLY
X-RAY EXAMINATIONS.

THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO REDUCE THIS CONTRIBUTION BY
IMPROVING THE CAPABILITIES OF THE MEDICAL PERSONEL
AND BY IMPROVING THE EQUIPMENT. THE CALCULATED UPPER
LIMIT FOR RADIOACTIVE EXPOSURE FROM THE OPERATION OF
NUCLEAR FACILITIES FALLS WITHIN THE RANGE OF VARIATION
OF THE NATURAL EXPOSURE. THUS IT SHOULD LIE WELL BELOW
ONE MREM/A WHICH MEANS THAT THE PEACEFUL USE OF
NUCLEAR ENERGY INCREASES THE INDIVIDUAL RADIATION
DOSE BY ONE PERCENT AT THE MOST.

4. THE FRG GOVERNMENT PLANS TO IMPROVE THE
DATA COLLECTING SYSTEM FOR FUTURE REPORTS. SPECIAL
ATTENTION WILL BE GIVEN INFORMATION ON THE RELEASE OF
RADIONUCLIDES THAT ENTER THE BIOCYCLE. THE
GOVERNMENT WILL UNDERTAKE LEGISLATIVE STEPS AND URGE
IMPROVEMENTS IN MONITORING DEVICES FOR
LARGE SCALE MONITORING OF THE VASTLY INCREASING STAFF
OF THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY. FURTHERMORE, THE REPORT CALLS
FOR A STANDARDIZED DATA SYSTEM TO ALLOW FOR PROMPT
ANALYSES OF INCIDENTS BY COMPARATIVE METHODS.

5. EMBASSY WOULD BE PLEASED TO POUCH COPIES OF THIS
GERMAN LANGUAGE REPORT UPON REQUEST.
CASH

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